



# Seattle Department of Education & Early Learning

## Families and Education Levy

### Summer Learning - Request for Investment (RFI) For Summers 2018 and 2019

#### Questions and Answers (Q&A)

*Updated: January 9, 2018*

#### ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

##### **Do organizations who were funded in the past need to reapply?**

Organizations and schools who are currently funded by the Families and Education Levy continue to receive funding for the duration of the Levy (summers 2018 and 2019), but are also eligible to apply to the new RFI to request additional dollars or to expand existing programs.

##### **Why might an eligible school be second priority?**

Second priority schools are schools who are eligible to receive Families and Education Levy dollars to serve students most in need of academic supports, but are not currently served by a Levy funded program. These schools may or may not have applied for funding in the past, or these schools may be newly opened schools.

##### **Is it attractive to apply with multiple community partners?**

DEEL funds a variety of program models, and the quality of partnerships is more important than the quantity. Some of our most successful summer programs are those that have formed partnerships between schools and community based organizations (CBOs), or where multiple CBOs come together to meet the needs of their community.

##### **Are university partnerships allowed?**

Absolutely! We encourage applicants to be creative in thinking about partnership possibilities. Partners could include higher education, early learning, social services, private sector, industry, etc.

##### **Will funding be available for summer learning beyond 2019?**

The Families and Education Levy was last renewed in 2011 for funding through summer 2019. This is the last RFI application of the current 2011 Levy. Voters will be asked to renew the Levy in fall of 2018. Summer Learning is a priority for the City and DEEL; however, we do not yet know what summer learning will look like in the future Levy package. Regardless of design, all current providers will need to re-apply for funds.

## **PROCESS AND TIMELINE**

### **Do we really have to submit 5 hard copies?**

All applicants are required to submit their RFI application both electronically and with 5 hard copies. The hard copies will be used by the review panel in their evaluation of each applicant. Submitting hard copies ensures that the application will be reviewed exactly as it was submitted, with no missing content due to formatting or printing errors. It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit a complete application.

## **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

### **Does DEEL have a minimum or maximum number of students they would like applicants to serve?**

DEEL does not provide guidance on number of students to serve and recommends that applicants base their program size on their organizational capacity and the needs of the community they are planning to serve. DEEL seeks to serve as many students as we can with available funding as well as reach diverse and underserved communities with high-quality programs.

### **Does DEEL have guidelines for ages of students that can use public transportation for Summer Learning participation – could students going into 9<sup>th</sup> grade be required to use public transportation to get to the program location (with the possibility of meeting and going with a program staff/intern from the bus/light rail stop)?**

We do not have guidelines for ages of students that can use public transportation for summer program participation. That is a program-level decision requiring discussion with students and families. Typically, high school programs require students to take private or public transportation and offer bus tokens or ORCA cards, where elementary school programs provide bus or shuttle van service to and from the program to ensure student safety.

### **In defining Levy Focus Students, does “not accumulating enough credits required for on-time graduation” apply to 9<sup>th</sup> graders, or just 12<sup>th</sup> graders?**

The Classes of 2018, 2019, and 2020 require a total of 21 credits to graduate from high school. Applicants can serve any grade level (grades 1-12) to support students in attaining the necessary credits. Note that beginning with the Class of 2021, students will need 24 credits to graduate from high school. (Source: [https://www.seattleschools.org/academics/graduation\\_requirements](https://www.seattleschools.org/academics/graduation_requirements))

### **Does our program need to take place in a Seattle Public Schools building?**

No. Applicants should propose the program location that best meets the needs of their students, community, program structure, and organizational capacity. Programs could be located in schools, community-based facilities, museums, college campuses, etc.

### **If we are running programs in a SPS building, do we need to work with SPS nutrition services to participate in the City of Seattle Summer Food Service Program? Are there any union restrictions?**

Partners operating summer programs in SPS schools can apply to be a free summer meal program site through the City of Seattle; more information [here](#). If they are accepted as a site, programs should alert and coordinate with the SPS Nutrition Services department ([nutritionservices@seattleschools.org](mailto:nutritionservices@seattleschools.org)) to determine if SPS Nutrition Services staff need to be contracted with to prepare and distribute meals.

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

### **If a community based organization and school are partnering, how do you track the number of students that each serve?**

There should only be one RFI application submitted per partnership. If a CBO and School decide to partner together on an application, one entity must decide to be the lead applicant. For example, if the school is the lead applicant, they submit the RFI application to DEEL on behalf of the partnership. The application should detail how the partnership will function and include funding for the school and CBO in the proposed budget. The school (lead applicant) would then sub-contract with and be responsible for paying the CBO (partner organization). With regard to number of students served, the lead applicant would ultimately bear the responsibility for meeting the enrollment targets proposed in the application.

### **Do pre- and post-surveys need to be implemented with fidelity?**

Yes. Applicants can also include the purchase of curriculum and/or aligned assessments into their budget if there is a particular assessment you would like to administer.

### **Is there a social-emotional learning pre- or post-survey that you recommend?**

DEEL does not have a specific recommendation in this area. We encourage applicants to tap into local knowledge in this area, such as [School's Out Washington](#) and [Youth Development Executives of King County](#).

## **BUDGET**

### **Is it possible to use DEEL funds to provide high school students a stipend for summer learning program participation?**

Applicants can offer stipends, but cannot use DEEL funds for that purpose. You can use other non-DEEL funds to pay for stipends, or use previously earned performance pay. DEEL would caution against using or budgeting for unearned performance pay since a program may not meet all of their performance targets and thus not earn all of their performance pay. In addition, the performance dollars are paid out after the summer program ends.